

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-11.

Claim 6 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim must depend on other claims in the alternative. Applicants have removed the dependency of Claim 6 on Claim 1, thus obviating this objection. A complete description of the compound recited in Claim 1, formula (I), is now shown in Claim 6. Minor clarifications to the compound of formula (I) are provided to make Claim 6 consistent with Claim 1.

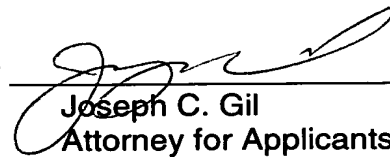
Claims 3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner notes that Claim 3 is confusing because the R¹ and R² substituents on structure IV are the reverse of those in formula I. Applicants amend herewith the formula shown in Claim 3 (formula IV) to make it consistent with formula I shown in Claim 1. The reversal of the substituents R₁ and R₂ in formula was an oversight. No new matter is added; one skilled in the art would recognize that the structure now shown in formula IV in Claim 3 is the one intended by the inventors.

Claim 6 is said to be confusing for lack of an antecedent basis for A4, A6 or (c). Claim 6 has been amended to correct the lack of antecedent basis for these claim elements. No new matter is added; the description of A4 is found on page 14, lines 14-15 of the specification, and the description of A6 is found on page 17, lines 17-20 of the specification. The reference to the prepolymers in step (b) rather than step (c) is self-explanatory.

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding issues have been addressed and that all pending claims, Claims 1-11, are now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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